

balanced budget I will submit to Congress next month will include a record one million work-study positions for college students. That represents an increase of nearly 50 percent during the last 3 years alone. It's not just about increasing financial aid, that's about increasing the circle of community service and the winner's circle of opportunity for the future.

For example, work-study students at more than 800 colleges in America today are helping to make sure that we reach one of our education goals, that every 8-year-old can read. Through the America Reads challenge, tens of thousands of college students are earning money for college while going into our schools to tutor young people to make sure that they don't get out of the third grade without being able to read independently; and now we'll have a million people doing that kind of work.

Let me just say this to all the young people here in this audience: We can create opportunities, but you have to seize it. I am determined—whenever I come to South Texas, I leave more determined than ever to find some way to better reward the energy, the patriotism, the commitment, the vision of the people here. We can do more to build on the empowerment zones and to do other things to help you to grow your economy, to preserve your environment, to create more jobs. But nothing—nothing—will matter in the end unless the young people who live here are committed to developing their own minds and keeping their visions high and believing in themselves and their futures. That is the most important thing. You have to believe that. You have to make sure that you have raised your sights as high as you can.

And let me just say, I don't want to embarrass him, but I'd like to compliment the principal here at Mission High School, Mr. Ahmadian. He came here in the late seventies from Iran, without being able to speak a word of English. Now, as the leader of this remarkable school, he's helped thousands of people go on to careers in education, in medicine, in law enforcement. He's helping them to do what he did with high standards for higher education. Whether you're the son or daughter of a migrant laborer, or a doctor, the same formula applies: high standards and

higher education; taking responsibility; sitting down with family, teachers, guidance counselors; committing to work hard to learn, to do the homework, to think about the future.

We're going to do our part in Washington to make sure that those of you who are prepared for the future can go on to college. We've removed the obstacles. There's an open field ahead, but you have to reach the goal line. Take the ball and run with it. Your future is bright; the future of the valley is bright; and the future of the Nation is in your hands.

God bless you. *Gracias. Viva el valle.* Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:05 a.m. in Tom Landry Stadium. In his remarks, he referred to Elizabeth Gonzales, student body president who introduced the President, and Masoud Ahmadian, principal, Mission High School; Koy Detmer, NFL Philadelphia Eagles backup quarterback and Mission High School alumnus; Lucille de la Garza, wife of former Representative Kika de la Garza; and Bill White, chair, Texas State Democratic Party.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

January 4

The President returned to Washington, DC, from St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands.

January 5

The White House announced that the President invited President Petar Stoyanov of Bulgaria for a working visit to Washington on February 10.

The White House announced that the President will meet with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu of Israel in Washington on January 20, and he will meet with Chairman Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Authority in Washington on January 22.

January 6

In the afternoon, the President attended a surprise birthday party for Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley at the Education Department.

The President declared a major disaster in Florida and ordered Federal aid to supplement State and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding, beginning December 25 and continuing.

January 7

The President announced his intention to appoint Maureen White as the U.S. Representative to the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

January 8

In the morning, the President traveled to New York City. In the afternoon, he had a telephone conversation with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore to discuss the Asia-Pacific economic situation.

In the evening, the President traveled to McAllen, TX. While en route aboard Air Force One, he had a telephone conversation with President Soeharto of Indonesia to discuss the Asia-Pacific economic situation.

The President announced his intention to nominate Rita R. Colwell as Deputy Director of the National Science Foundation.

The White House announced that the President will award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to 15 distinguished Americans at a White House ceremony on January 15.

January 9

In the morning, the President met with local community leaders at the Embassy Suites Hotel in McAllen.

In the afternoon, the President attended a reception for Representative Ruben Hinojosa at a private residence. Following the reception, he traveled to Brownsville, TX, where he addressed citizens of the Brownsville area at the Brownsville-South Padre Island International Airport. Later in the afternoon, he traveled to Houston, TX.

In the evening, the President addressed Houston High School students, parents, and teachers at the George Brown Convention Center. Later in the evening, he attended a reception for Representative Sheila Jackson

Lee at the Four Seasons Hotel. Following the reception, he returned to Washington, DC.

The President announced his intention to appoint Andrew P. Scalzi as U.S. Commissioner to the International Pacific Halibut Commission.

Nominations Submitted to the Senate

NOTE: No nominations were submitted to the Senate during the period covered by this issue.

Checklist of White House Press Releases

The following list contains releases of the Office of the Press Secretary that are neither printed as items nor covered by entries in the Digest of Other White House Announcements.

Released January 5

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Transcript of a press briefing by Office of Management and Budget Director Franklin Raines and National Economic Council Director Gene Sperling on the budget

Statement by the Press Secretary: Visit by President Stoyanov of Bulgaria

Released January 6

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry

Transcript of a press briefing by Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, Labor Secretary Alexis Herman, and National Economic Council Director Gene Sperling on the President's proposed legislation on Medicare

Released January 7

Transcript of a press briefing by Press Secretary Mike McCurry